



**WORKERS NEED MORE THAN THANKS ON EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATORS' DAY, THEY NEED
TO BE VALUED MORE: THE PARENTHOOD
MEDIA RELEASE
2 September 2020**

On Early Childhood Educators' Day *The Parenthood* has not only recognised the crucial work of early educators in creating a bright future for children, families and our community, but called for political leaders to go 'beyond thank you' and better value their contribution.

The Parenthood's Executive Director, Georgie Dent, said, "Thank you is not enough to adequately recognise the work of early childhood educators across the nation and the remarkable contribution they make to the wellbeing and healthy development of the young children in their care.

"This year, even more than ever, the work of early educators needs more than a public acknowledgement, it needs to be valued appropriately.

"This workforce has found itself on the frontline of a health pandemic and have continued to offer invaluable education and care to young children while dealing with unprecedented uncertainty and instability as a result of coronavirus. The least these skilled workers deserve is a safety net.

"Early educators remain among the lowest paid workers in Australia despite being qualified and delivering an essential and hugely valuable service. These workers put themselves in danger for months to ensure children could have the education and care they deserve."

"JobKeeper is the safety net that has enabled millions of Australians to cope with the unexpected loss of income they've experienced since March. Taking it off early educators was cruel even before the situation in Victoria escalated," Dent says.

On Early Childhood Educators' Day *The Parenthood* is calling for a wages guarantee for early educators in Victoria and a commitment to ensuring these essential workers are valued and appropriately remunerated as Australia recovers from the coronavirus pandemic.

END.

MEDIA CONTACT: For interviews with Executive Director Georgie Dent call 0400 437 434.

A not-for-profit organisation The Parenthood is Australia's leading parent advocacy group with a reach of over 68,000 parents from across Australia.

